



Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection to Honor Humane Officers with New Award

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MADISON – The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), the department responsible for training humane officers throughout Wisconsin, will recognize the valuable services provided to animals by humane officers with its new Humane Officer of the Year Award. The first-time honoree will receive an award presented by Secretary Ben Brancel.

“Often the commitment and contributions of humane officers go unnoticed by their counterparts and communities. These humane officers are deserving of some recognition for what they do each day,” said Yvonne Bellay, DVM, Animal Welfare Program Manager/Epidemiologist for the DATCP Division of Animal Health.

Agencies statewide that employ the services of a humane officer are asked to submit a nomination to recognize their officer’s commitment in one of four areas: excellence in a particular task or incident, acts demonstrating compassionate or humane care toward an animal or animals in need, absolute devotion to his or her role as a humane officer, or efforts to raise the public’s perception of, or confidence in, humane officers.

Currently, 46 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties benefit from the services of a humane officer. Bellay and her department see this as an opportunity to not only spread the word about how humane officers benefit communities but also encourage the 26 counties without an officer to send someone to the annual training in Madison this September.

Nomination forms and details are available on the DATCP website at datcp.wisconsin.gov under Animals. Submission deadline for this award is August 15, 2012 and the honoree will be announced on October 1, 2012. Completed nominations can be sent to Humane Officer of the Year Award, Attention: Raechelle Cline, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911 or by e-mail to raechelle.cline@wi.gov.

If you are interested in sending someone to the annual training, please visit our website (datcp.wi.gov) for registration information or contact Gena Goldade at 608-224-4889, e-mail gena.goldade@wi.gov.

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